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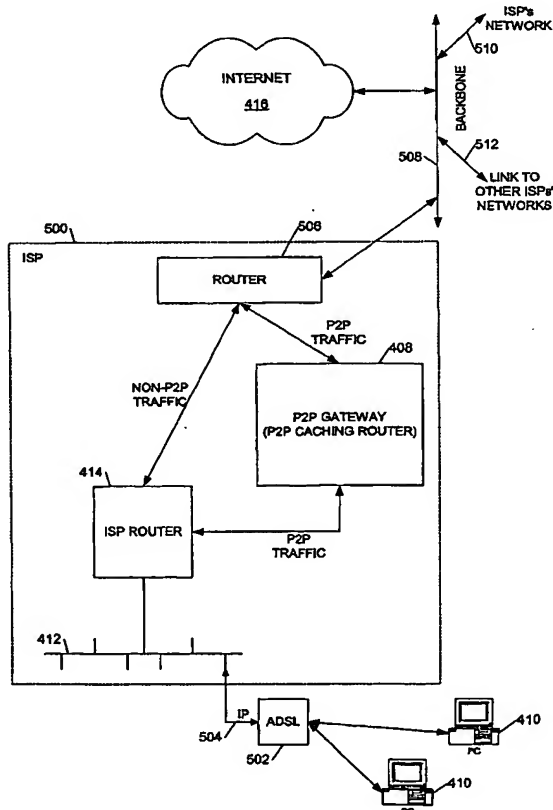
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(54) Title: METHODS AND APPARATUS FOR TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT IN PEER-TO-PEER NETWORKS



(57) Abstract: This relates to routing and caching systems for re-  
ducing the bandwidth used by decentralised peer-to-peer (P2P) file  
sharing networks. A method of reducing traffic in a decentralised  
peer-to-peer network is described. The peer-to-peer network operates  
over an underlying network comprising first and second network por-  
tions. The method comprises routing a peer-to-peer message in one of  
said network portions with an intended destination in the other of said  
network portions to a gateway between peer-to-peer nodes residing  
on said first and second network portions; and controlling transport  
of said message at said gateway to limit propagation of said message  
into said other of said network portions.

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